

Farmington Canal State Park Trail, Lock 12, Cheshire, CT

Completed in 1829, the Farmington canal was built and opened for transit. The canal stretched 56 miles from New Haven to Northampton, Mass. It consisted of twenty-eight lift locks all ninety by twelve feet in the clear, and most with lockkeeper's house. The locks featured chestnut and oak chambers and were fifteen feet in height. By 1836 the canal was in jeopardy from railroad competition. Lock 12 has been preserved as a relic of the canal's shipping history. Today, the paved pathway is perfect for walking, biking or roller blading.